



NEWSLETTER #2

ASCS NEWS

Glenn



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October 1994

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SHASTA-TRINITY COUNTY 1995 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM (ACP) CONTINUOUS SIGNUP SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

The Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) is a joint effort by agricultural producers and the Federal Government to protect land and water resources and to preserve the environment. The program provides cost-share funding to eligible producers who carry out conservation oriented practices on agricultural lands. The rate of cost-share ranges between 50% and 75% of eligible costs not to exceed \$3500 per person per fiscal year.

The ACP program also offers a Long Term Agreement (LTA) which is a commitment by our agency to cost-share with a producer on a series of conservation practices for a period of at least three (3) years.

ELIGIBILITY: **Producer:** You must be a commercial ag producer.
 Land: The land must currently be in ag production.

Note: Definition of Agriculture includes timber, livestock, orchards, vineyards, pasture, grains, vegetables or nursery crops produced for income.

When filing an APPLICATION, be prepared to discuss the proposed project in detail. You must define your conservation problems and proposed solutions. Include a project design and cost estimate. Please provide a copy of your assessors parcel map and roll page. Show the project location on the parcel map.

The following project types are considered high priority, and funding will be allocated in descending order of:

- a. Water quality-quantity projects on the Fall River that will improve the fishery.
- b. Water quality-quantity projects outside of Fall River.
- c. Soil erosion reducing projects.
- d. Projects that improve & protect wildlife & fishery habitat
- f. Timber quality-quantity projects that improve woodland resources.

Soil Conservation Service technicians will review all non-forestry projects to determine if the project is needed and feasible.

All applications will be reviewed by the County Committee. You will be notified in writing as to the status of your application. A PROJECT CANNOT BE STARTED UNTIL YOU RECEIVE A WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM THE COUNTY COMMITTEE. (Approvals will be issued based on available funds).

PRACTICES APPROVED FOR COST-SHARING IN 1995 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- SL1 PERMANENT VEGETATIVE COVER ESTABLISHMENT--Pasture seeding, fertilizing. 50% cost-sharing. 5 year Lifespan.
- SL2 PERMANENT VEGETATIVE COVER IMPROVEMENT--Rangeland seeding, fertilizing, and cross fencing (must be pasture on both sides), competitive shrub control and control burning are eligible components, 50% cost-sharing. For use of no-till drill equipment, 65% cost-sharing is authorized. 5 year lifespan.
- SL5 DIVERSIONS--Ditches, dikes, subsurface drains, pipe, chutes and under ground outlets. 70% cost-sharing. 10 year lifespan.
- SL6 GRAZING LAND PROTECTION--Livestock wells, dugouts, pipelines, troughs, storage facilities, protective fencing. 70% cost-sharing 10 year lifespan.
- SL7 WINDBREAK RESTORATION OR ESTABLISHMENT--Planting trees or shrubs, fencing, low-cost irrigation mainlines where essential to establishment and maintenance of a viable windbreak. 50% cost-sharing. 10 year lifespan.
- SL9 FARMSTEAD AND FEEDLOT WINDBREAK--Planting trees or shrubs for establishing farmstead or feedlot windbreaks, permanent fencing, irrigation mainlines. 50% cost-sharing. 10 year lifespan.
- SL11 PERMANENT VEGETATIVE COVER ON CRITICAL AREAS--Cost-sharing for grading shaping and filling, establishment of grasses, trees or shrubs needed to protect critical areas from erosion. 70% cost-sharing. 5 year lifespan.
- SL14 REDUCED TILLAGE SYSTEMS--Cost-sharing for eligible tillage operation on cropland protected by crop residue (chisel plowing, plow-plant, implements that do not invert the soil, application of herbicides, etc.) 50% cost-sharing, not to exceed \$15 per acre.
- SL15 NO-TILL SYSTEMS--Cost-sharing for planting directly into old crop residue, annual cover crops, or chemically killed sods, and for necessary herbicides and insecticides. 50% cost-sharing, not to exceed \$15 per acre.
- WC1 WATER IMPOUNDMENT RESERVOIRS--Must be for erosion control, but may also provide water for other agricultural uses. 70% cost-sharing. 10 year lifespan.

- WC4 IRRIGATION WATER CONSERVATION--To reorganize existing systems that have been in use 4 of the last 5 years. Permanent mainline, lining irrigation ditches, tailwater recovery systems, and land leveling where necessary. Projects must show a water savings of .75/ac.ft/acre to be eligible. 60% cost-sharing. 10 year lifespan.
- WP1 SEDIMENT RETENTION, EROSION OR WATER CONTROL STRUCTURES--Erosion control dams, sediment basins or similar structures, channel lining, chutes, drop spillways and pipe drops that dispose of excess water. 70% cost-sharing. 10 year lifespan.
- WP2 STREAM PROTECTION--Cost-sharing for fencing to protect the banks from livestock, or for planting of filter strips along the banks or for livestock crossings, or livestock access. 70% cost-sharing. 10 year lifespan.
- WP4 ANIMAL WASTE CONTROL FACILITIES--Cost-sharing for facilities such as aerobic or anaerobic lagoons, liquid manure tanks, holding ponds, collection basins, settling basins, diversions, channels, waterways, outlets, piping, land shaping and protective fencing. 75% cost-sharing. 10 year lifespan.
- WP7 RIPARIAN BUFFER STRIPS--Purpose is to reduce pollution & protect surface & subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem of streams, lakes & ponds. 75% cost-sharing authorized for site preparation, seeding hayland pasture & range, vegetative bank planting, tree & shrub planting, protective fencing, pipelines & water facilities. 10 year lifespan.
- SP10 STREAMBANK PREPARATION FOR NATURAL REGENERATION--50% not to exceed \$50 per square yard of streambank protected. Applicable to small streams or lakes located on or adjacent to farmland where the streambank or lakeshore is subject to serious erosion. Cost-sharing for rock rip-rap, pipe and wire revetment, and vegetative cover. Cost-sharing is authorized only for a pooling agreement (2 or more farms) or an individual farm if the entire problem area is located thereon and the practice will effectively treat the problem without the need for the same practice on nearby or adjacent land or on other farms.
- SP53 INTEGRATED CROP MANAGEMENT--Develop an Integrated Crop Management Plan for the purpose of reducing the use of pesticides & nutrients on cropland which will reduce the pollution of water, land and air. 75% cost shares not to exceed \$14 per acre for nutrient and pesticide reduction on small grains, forage, hay, and row crops, and \$40 per acre for nutrient & pesticide reduction on vegetables, berries, orchards, vineyards, or other speciality crops produced.
- SP54 OAK STAND MANAGEMENT--The purpose of this practice is to enhance and improve the environment by providing the basis for long-term oak stand and associated species management. Apply this practice to oak woodland in need of an Inventory and Woodland Management Plan. 50% cost-sharing for development of Plan. 10-year lifespan.

SP58 WILDLAND FUELBREAK AND HABITAT IMPROVEMENT--Construction of fuelbreaks on eligible lands to reduce fuel loads, improve humankind and animal habitat, enhance natural oak regeneration, improve livestock grazing use and increase water yield within a designated and bonafide watershed area. 75% cost-sharing. 10-year lifespan.

FR1 FOREST TREE PLANTATIONS--Site preparation, trees and planting for multi-purpose forest benefits. Trees for fuelwood may be eligible. Orchard trees, ornamentals and planting for Christmas tree production are not eligible. 75% cost-sharing not to exceed \$208 per acre (\$110/ac for site prep. & \$98/ac for planting). 10 year maintenance.

FR2 FOREST TREE STAND IMPROVEMENT--Stands of forest trees needing thinning, pruning or release. 75% cost-sharing not to exceed \$150 per acre for thinning, pruning and release, and \$35 per acre for slash disposal. 10 year maintenance.

FR3 SITE PREPARATION FOR NATURAL REGENERATION--Cost-sharing for recommended site preparation (including prescribed burning) for natural reseeding. 75% cost-sharing, not to exceed \$110 per acre for site preparation. 10 year maintenance.

WL1 PERMANENT WILDLIFE HABITAT--Establishing permanent wildlife habitat. Cost-sharing for plantings and protective fencing. 50% cost-sharing. 5-year maintenance.

WL2 SHALLOW WATER AREAS FOR WILDLIFE--Cost-sharing for developing shallow water areas for wildlife (dams, levees, dikes, plantings protective fencing). 50% cost-sharing. 10 year maintenance.

1995 FORESTRY INCENTIVES PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

1. The Forestry Incentives Program is a continuous cost-sharing program based on available funding.
2. Program is available to private individuals who own "non-industrial" private forest lands capable of producing industrial wood crops.
3. Eligible land is between 10 and 1000 acres.
4. Maximum cost-share is \$10,000 per fiscal year. Only owners are eligible to participate.
5. The Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) is administered by ASCS. Contact your local ASCS Office to apply. Technical services will be provided by the California Department of Forestry.
6. A practice started prior to final approval by the county committee is not eligible for cost-shares.

PRACTICES AVAILABLE UNDER THE FIP PROGRAM ARE:

- FP1 PLANTING TREES--Cost-shares are 65% of the cost not to exceed \$145/ac for site preparation and \$135/ac for trees and planting.
- FP2 TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT--Cost-shares are 65% of the cost not to exceed \$140/ac for thinning, pruning, and \$35/ac for slash disposal.
- FP3 SITE PREPARATION FOR NATURAL REGENERATION--Cost-shares are 65% of the cost not to exceed \$95/acre.

STEWARDSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM (SIP)

SIP encourages active management of forest land for multiple resource benefits (economic environmental and social), not available in other conservation programs. Qualifying non-industrial forest land includes rural lands with existing tree cover and other woody vegetation or land suitable for growing such vegetation and owned by a private individual, group, association, corporation, Indian tribe, or other legal private entity. Eligible landowners must have an approved Forest Stewardship Plan and own 1,000 acres or less of qualifying land. Authorizations may be obtained for exceptions of up to 5,000 acres. Existing management plans can be modified to meet Forest Stewardship Plan guidelines.

SIP payments may not exceed \$10,000 per landowner per fiscal year. Maximum Cost-Share rate is 75%. Landowner's share may be met in labor, materials, or cash.

Nine SIP practices have been approved for cost-share assistance by the USDA Forest Service. A project plan needs to be developed and approved by the CDF Local Forester and the landowner before SIP can fund other practices. SIP practice requests are initiated by the CDF Local Forester. Practices must be maintained for 10 years.

ELIGIBLE PRACTICES:

- SIP-1 STEWARDSHIP PLAN DEVELOPMENT
- SIP-2 SITE PREPARATION & PLANTING FORESTRY TREES
- SIP-3 PRUNING, PRESCRIBED BURNING, FENCING, FERTILIZING
- SIP-4 WINDBREAK AND HEDGEROW PLANTING, DRIP IRRIGATION, FENCING
MULCHING & FERTILIZING
- SIP-5 CRITICAL AREA PLANTING, FERTILIZER, FENCING
- SIP-6 WETLAND RESTORATION, CRITICAL AREA PLANTING, STREAMBANK &
SHORELINE PROTECTION, FENCING, FERTILIZER

- SIP-7 FISH STREAM IMPROVEMENT, LOG WEIRS, FENCING
- SIP-8 WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT, FENCING, SPRING DEVELOPMENT,
WILDLIFE WATERING FACILITIES, FENCING, TREE PLANTINGS
- SIP-9 FOREST RECREATION ENHANCEMENT, FENCING, SITE PREPARATION,
PLANTING/MULCHING FOR PRESCRIBED PLANTS ON CULTURAL RESOURCE
SITES(prehistoric archaeological sites/historical resources)

* * *

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To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., 20250, or call (202) 720-7327 (voice) or (202) 720-1127 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
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